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The Furman network

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Furman alumni news

The Furman network

When job-hunting, do you use your Furman connections? When you move to a new city, do you seek out Furman alumni?

Alumni networking benefits all Furman graduates, but it is especially important for students and young alumni.

Take the case of Tracy Mueller, a 2000 grad. During her junior year, Tracy worked with the Alumni Office to identify Atlanta alumni employed in the fields she was considering — public relations and law. Through her Furman contacts, she landed internships in both areas and discovered that she wanted to pursue a legal career. Upon graduation, she was offered a full-time position as a legal assistant at the law firm where she interned.

"I had an immensely positive experience utilizing the Furman alumni network," she says. "I can't think of a better way to get your foot in the door than with the help of an established connection — in this case, Furman." She hopes to take advantage of her Furman ties again when she completes law school in three years.

Tracy's classmate, Christine Farrell, had a similar experience. Armed with a degree in business administration, she asked the Alumni Office to generate a list of alumni living and working in Greenville. Christine contacted alumni in careers that interested her and says this was "a great way to network. Most of the people I called gave me someone else to call."

One contact, who had no openings at the ad agency where she worked, kept her eye out for other

possibilities and forwarded them to Christine. The result: Christine found a position as an account executive with Erwin-Penland, a Greenville advertising agency, where she began working just three months after graduation.

The Young Alumni Association (YAC) works to strengthen ties between young alumni and Furman. We want alumni to stay in touch with each other, and a good way to do so is through job networking. As Christine and Tracy learned, the Alumni Office can help.

Another resource for Furman graduates is the Young Alumni Resource Directory (YARD). The YARD lists the names of alumni who can provide career advice to young alumni or help them acclimate to a new area. By listing your name and information in the YARD, you reach out to young alumni in your area. The YARD is a great resource for job-hunting, networking, or just learning about a new city. For a copy, contact the Alumni Office.

So remember: If you're job hunting or moving to a new city, Furman can help. And if you're looking for a new employee or a summer intern, check with Furman as well.

Alumni networking works!
— Nancy Thomas Kennedy '90

The author is a member of the Young Alumni Council.



ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

Furman Alumni Association telephone
1-800-PURPLE3

Web site
<http://www.furman.edu/admin/alumni>

E-mail
alumni@furman.edu

Cast your ballot: Alumni, take note! It's Alumni Board election time!

Please complete the ballot included in this issue of the magazine and return it as soon as possible. This year's candidates (photos and biographies opposite) represent specific decades for which we seek further representation.

Mark the ballot for each candidate of your choice and return it to the Alumni Office by July 10. Vote for one candidate in each pairing. If you are married and voting together, include two checks beside each choice.

If through some glitch your magazine doesn't include a ballot, go on-line to the Furman Web site (www.furman.edu) and follow the link to the Alumni section, where the candidate biographies and a ballot are included.

Coaches' tours highlight Furman Club events: Coaches of Paladin athletic teams hit the road in late May for Furman Club events in Atlanta, Ga., Charleston, S.C., and Columbia, S.C. They met with alumni, provided season reviews and previews, and emphasized the importance of alumni support for Paladin athletics. Thanks to David Cobb '90, Rebecca Armacost '89 and Kelly Davis '94 for their help in planning these events.

A number of "Summer Send-Offs" will be held during the next three months, with the Alumni and Admissions offices joining forces to host programs for incoming freshmen and their families. And in September, the Alumni Office will take its show out West for events in Denver, Colo., Laramie, Wyo. (tied in with the football team's season opener against Wyoming), Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Of course, we'll once again have a slate of tailgating parties and other activities to coincide with the Paladins' road football games this fall. So watch your mail for announcements or check the Alumni Web page about upcoming Furman Club events.

Singers Reunion set August 3-5: It's time again for the biennial Furman Singers reunion. Singers alumni are invited to return to campus August 3-5 for rehearsals, a Saturday banquet and a performance Sunday morning at Greenville's First Baptist Church.

This year marks the 12th reunion for the Singers during Bingham Vick's 31 years as the group's director. For more information, call the music department at (864) 294-2086 or e-mail bing.vick@furman.edu.